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# NATIONAL PLAYING RULES

—OF—

## Professional Base Ball Clubs

AS ADOPTED JOINTLY BY THE NATIONAL LEAGUE AND  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION, AND GOVERNING ALL CLUBS  
PARTIES TO THE NATIONAL AGREEMENT.

1889.

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### THE BALL GROUND.

RULE 1. The Ground must be an enclosed field, sufficient in size to enable each player to play in his position as required by these Rules.

RULE 2. The Infield must be a space of ground thirty yards square.

### THE BASES.

RULE 3. The Bases must be

SEC. 1. Four in number, and designated as First Base, Second Base, Third Base and Home Base.

SEC. 2. The Home Base must be of whitened rubber twelve inches square, so fixed in the ground as to be even with the surface, and so placed in the corner of the infield that two of its sides will form part of the boundaries of said infield.

SEC. 3. The First, Second and Third Bases must be canvas bags, fifteen inches square, painted white, and filled with some soft material, and so placed that the center of the second base shall be upon its corner of the infield, and the center of the first and third bases shall be on the lines running to and from second base and seven and one-half inches from the foul lines, providing that each base shall be entirely within the foul lines.

SEC. 4. All the bases must be securely fastened in their positions, and so placed as to be distinctly seen by the Umpire.

### THE FOUL LINES.

RULE 4. The Foul Lines must be drawn in straight lines from the outer corner of the Home Base, along the outer edge of the First and Third Bases, to the boundaries of the Ground.

## THE POSITION LINES.

RULE 5. The Pitcher's Lines must be straight lines forming the boundaries of a space of ground, in the infield, five and one-half feet long by four feet wide, distant fifty feet from the center of the Home Base, and so placed that the five and one-half feet lines would each be two feet distant from and parallel with a straight line passing through the center of the Home and Second Bases. Each corner of this space must be marked by a flat iron plate or stone six inches square, fixed in the ground even with the surface.

RULE 6. The Catcher's Lines must be drawn from the outer corner of the Home Base, in continuation of the Foul Lines, straight to the limits of the Ground back of Home Base.

RULE 7. The Captain's or Coacher's Lines must be a line fifteen feet from and parallel with the Foul Lines, said lines commencing at a line parallel with and seventy-five feet distant from the catcher's lines, and running thence to the limits of the grounds.

RULE 8. The Players' Lines must be drawn from the Catcher's Lines to the limits of the Ground, fifty feet distant from and parallel with, the foul lines.

RULE 9. The Batsman's Lines must be straight lines forming the boundaries of a space on the right, and of a similar space on the left of the Home Base, six feet long by four feet wide, extending three feet in front of and three feet behind the center of the Home Base, and with its nearest line distant six inches from the Home Base.

RULE 10. The Three Feet Lines must be drawn as follows : From a point on the Foul Line from Home Base to First Base, and equally distant from such bases, shall be drawn a line on Foul Ground, at a right angle to said Foul Line, and to a point three feet distant from it; thence running parallel with said Foul Line, to a point three feet distant from the First Base; thence in a straight line to the Foul Line, and thence upon the Foul Line to point of beginning.

RULE 11. The lines designated in Rules 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 must be marked with chalk or other suitable material, so as to be distinctly seen by the Umpire. They must all be so marked their entire length, except the Captain's and Player's Lines, which must be so marked for a distance of at least thirty-five yards from the Catcher's Lines.

## THE BALL.

RULE 12. The Ball.

SEC. 1. Must not weigh less than five or more than five and one-quarter ounces avoirdupois, and measure not less than

nine nor more than nine and one-quarter inches in circumference. The Spalding League Ball, or the Reach American Association Ball must be used in all games played under these rules.

SEC. 2. For each championship game two balls shall be furnished by the Home Club to the Umpire for use. When the ball in play is batted over the fence or stands, on to foul ground out of sight of the players, the other ball shall be immediately put into play by the Umpire. As often as one of the two in use shall be lost, a new one must be substituted, so that the Umpire may at all times, after the game begins, have two for use. The moment the Umpire delivers the alternate ball to the catcher or pitcher it comes into play, and shall not be exchanged until it, in turn, passes out of sight on to foul ground.

SEC. 3. In all games the ball or balls played with shall be furnished by the Home Club, and the last ball in play becomes the property of the winning club. Each ball to be used in championship games shall be examined, measured and weighed by the Secretary of the Association, inclosed in a paper box and sealed with the seal of the Secretary, which seal shall not be broken except by the Umpire in the presence of the captains of the two contesting nines after play has been called.

SEC. 4. Should the ball become out of shape, or cut or ripped so as to expose the yarn, or in any way so injured as to be—in the opinion of the Umpire—unfit for fair use, the Umpire, on being appealed to by either captain, shall at once put the alternate ball into play and call for a new one.

#### THE BAT.

##### RULE 13. The Bat.

SEC. 1. Must be made wholly of wood, except that the handle may be wound with twine or a granulated substance applied, not to exceed eighteen inches from the end.

SEC. 2. It must be round, except that a portion of the surface may be flat on one side, but it must not exceed two and one-half inches in diameter in the thickest part, and must not exceed forty-two inches in length.

#### THE PLAYERS AND THEIR POSITIONS.

RULE 14. The players of each club in a game shall be nine in number, one of whom shall act as Captain, and in no case shall less than nine men be allowed to play on each side.

RULE 15. The players' positions shall be such as may be assigned them by their Captain, except that the Pitcher must take his position within the Pitcher's Lines, as defined in Rule 5. When in position on the field, all players will be designated "Fielders" in these rules.

RULE 16. Players in uniform shall not be permitted to seat themselves among the spectators.

RULE 17. Every Club shall be required to adopt uniforms for its players, and each player shall be required to present himself upon the field during said game in a neat and cleanly condition, but no player shall attach anything to the sole or heel of his shoes other than the ordinary base ball shoe plate.

#### THE PITCHER'S POSITION.

RULE 18. The pitcher shall take his position facing the batsman with both feet square on the ground, one foot on the rear line of the "box." He shall not raise either foot, unless in the act of delivering the ball, nor make more than one step in such delivery. He shall hold the ball, before the delivery, fairly in front of his body, and in sight of the Umpire. When the pitcher feigns to throw the ball to a base he must resume the above position and pause momentarily before delivering the ball to the bat.

#### THE BATSMEN'S POSITION—ORDER OF BATTING.

RULE 19. The batsmen must take their positions within the Batsmen's Lines, as defined in Rule 9, in the order in which they are named on *the score*, which must contain the batting order of both nines, and be submitted by the Captains of the opposing teams to the Umpire before the game, and when approved by him THIS SCORE must be followed except in the case of a substitute player, in which case the substitute must take the place of the original player in the batting order. After the first inning the first striker in each inning shall be the batsman whose name follows that of the last man who has completed his turn—time at bat—in the preceding inning.

RULE 20. SEC. 1. When their side goes to the bat the players must immediately return to and seat themselves upon the players' bench and remain there until the side is put out, except when batsman or base runner. All bats not in use must be kept in the bat racks, and the two players next succeeding the batsman, in the order in which they are named on the score, must be ready with bat in hand to promptly take position as batsman; provided, that the Captain and one assistant only may occupy the space between the players' lines and the Captain's lines to coach base runners.

SEC. 2. No player of the side at bat, except when Batsman, shall occupy any portion of the space within the Catcher's Lines, as defined in Rule 6. The triangular space behind the Home Base is reserved for the exclusive use of the Umpire, Catcher and Batsman, and the Umpire must prohibit any player of the side "at bat" from crossing the same at any time while the ball is in the



hands of, or passing between, the Pitcher and Catcher, while standing in their positions.

SEC. 3. The players of the side "at bat" must occupy the portion of the field allotted them, but must speedily vacate any portion thereof that may be in the way of the ball, or of any Fielder attempting to catch or field it.

#### PLAYERS' BENCHES.

RULE 21. The Players' Benches must be furnished by the home club, and placed upon a portion of the ground outside the Players' Lines. They must be twelve feet in length, and must be immovably fastened to the ground. At the end of each bench must be immovably fixed a bat rack, with fixtures for holding twenty bats; one such rack must be designated for the exclusive use of the Visiting Club, and the other for the exclusive use of the Home Club.

#### THE GAME.

RULE 22 SEC. 1. Every Championship Game must be commenced not later than two hours before sunset.

SEC. 2. A Game shall consist of nine innings to each contesting nine, except that,

(a) If the side first at bat scores less runs in nine innings than the other side has scored in eight innings, the game shall then terminate.

(b) If the side last at bat in the ninth inning scores the winning run before the third man is out, the game shall terminate, upon the return of the ball to the pitcher.

#### A TIE GAME.

RULE 23. If the score be a tie at the end of nine innings to each side, play shall only be continued until the side first at bat shall have scored one or more runs than the other side, in an equal number of innings, or until the other side shall score one or more runs than the side first at bat.

#### A DRAWN GAME.

RULE 24. A Drawn Game shall be declared by the Umpire when he terminates a game on account of darkness or rain, after five equal innings have been played, if the score at the time is equal on the last even innings played; but if the side that went second to bat is then at the bat, and has scored the same number of runs as the other side, the Umpire shall declare the game drawn, without regard to the score of the last equal innings.

#### A CALLED GAME.

RULE 25. If the Umpire calls "Game" on account of darkness or rain at any time after five innings have been completed

by both sides, the score shall be that of the last equal innings played, unless the side second at bat shall have scored one or more runs than the side first at bat, in which case the score of the game shall be the total number of runs made.

#### A FORFEITED GAME.

**RULE 26.** A Forfeited Game shall be declared by the Umpire in favor of the club not in fault, at the request of such club, in the following cases:

**SEC. 1.** If the nine of a club fail to appear upon the field, or being upon the field, fail to begin the game within five minutes after the Umpire has called "Play," at the hour appointed for the beginning of the game, unless such delay in appearing or in commencing the game be unavoidable.

**SEC. 2.** If, after the game has begun, one side refuses or fails to continue playing, unless such game has been suspended or terminated by the Umpire.

**SEC. 3.** If, after play has been suspended by the Umpire, one side fails to resume playing within five minutes after the Umpire has called "Play."

**SEC. 4.** If, in the opinion of the Umpire, any one of these rules is willfully violated.

**SEC. 5.** If, after ordering the removal of a player, as authorized by Rule 57, Sec. 5, said order is not obeyed within five minutes.

**SEC. 6.** In case the Umpire declares a game forfeited, he shall transmit a written notice thereof to the President of the Association within twenty-four hours thereafter.

#### NO GAME.

**RULE 27.** "No Game" shall be declared by the Umpire if he shall terminate play on account of rain or darkness, before five innings on each side are completed.

#### SUBSTITUTES.

**RULE 28. SEC. 1.** In every championship game each team shall be required to have present on the field, in uniform, at least one or more substitute players.

**SEC. 2.** One player, whose name shall be printed on the score card as an extra player, may be substituted at the end of any completed innings by either club, but the player retired shall not thereafter participate in the game. In addition thereto a substitute may be allowed at any time in place of a player disabled in the game then being played, by reason of illness or injury, of the nature and extent of which the Umpire shall be the sole judge.

**SEC. 3.** The Base Runner shall not have a substitute run for him, except by consent of the Captains of the contesting teams.

## CHOICE OF INNINGS—CONDITION OF GROUND.

RULE 29. The choice of innings shall be given to the Captain of the Home Club, who shall also be the sole judge of the fitness of the ground for beginning a game after rain.

## THE DELIVERY OF THE BALL—FAIR AND UNFAIR BALLS.

RULE 30. A Fair Ball is a ball delivered by the Pitcher while standing wholly within the lines of his position, and facing the batsman, the ball, so delivered to pass over the home base, not lower than the batsman's knee, nor higher than his shoulder.

RULE 31. An Unfair Ball is a ball delivered by the Pitcher, as in Rule 30, except that the ball does not pass over the Home Base, or does pass over the Home Base above the batsman's shoulder, or below the knee.

## BALKING.

RULE 32. A Balk is

SEC. 1. Any motion made by the Pitcher to deliver the ball to the bat without delivering it, and shall be held to include any and every accustomed motion with the hands, arms or feet, or position of the body assumed by the Pitcher in his delivery of the ball, and any motion calculated to deceive a base runner, except the ball be accidentally dropped.

SEC. 2. The holding of the ball by the Pitcher so long as to delay the game unnecessarily; or

SEC. 3. Any motion to deliver the ball, or the delivering the ball to the bat by the Pitcher when any part of his person is upon ground outside of the lines of his position, including all preliminary motions with the hands, arms and feet.

## DEAD BALLS.

RULE 33. A Dead Ball is a ball delivered to the bat by the Pitcher that touches the Batsman's bat without being struck at, or any part of the Batsman's person or clothing while standing in his position without being struck at; or any part of the Umpire's person or clothing, while on foul ground, without first passing the Catcher.

RULE 34. In case of a Foul Strike, Foul Hit ball not legally caught out, Dead Ball, or Base Runner put out for being struck by a fair hit ball, the ball shall not be considered in play until it is held by the Pitcher standing in his position.

## BLOCK BALLS.

RULE 35. SEC. 1. A Block is a batted or thrown ball that is stopped or handled by any person not engaged in the game.

SEC. 2. Whenever a Block occurs the Umpire shall declare it, and Base Runners may run the bases, without being put out, until the ball has been returned to and held by the Pitcher standing in his position.

SEC. 3. In the case of a Block, if the person not engaged in the game should retain possession of the ball, or throw or kick it beyond the reach of the Fielders, the Umpire should call "Time," and require each base runner to stop at the last base touched by him until the ball be returned to the Pitcher standing in his position.

#### THE SCORING OF RUNS.

RULE 36. One Run shall be scored every time a Base Runner, after having legally touched the first three bases, shall touch the Home Base before three men are put out. If the third man is forced out, or is put out before reaching First Base, a run shall not be scored.

#### THE BATTING RULES.

RULE 37. A Fair Hit is a ball batted by the batsman, standing in his position, that first touches the ground, the First Base, the Third Base, any part of the person of a player, Umpire, or any other object that is in front of or on either of the Foul Lines, or batted directly to the ground by the Batsman, standing in his position, that (whether it first touches Foul or Fair Ground) bounds or rolls within the Foul Lines, between Home and First, or Home and Third Bases, without interference by a player.

RULE 38. A Foul Hit is a ball batted by the Batsman, standing in his position, that first touches the ground, any part of the person of a player, or any other object that is behind either of the Foul Lines, or that strikes the person of such Batsman, while standing in his position, or batted directly to the ground by the Batsman, standing in his position, that (whether it first touches Foul or Fair Ground) bounds or rolls outside the Foul Lines, between Home and First or Home and Third Bases, without interference by a player. Provided, that a Foul Hit not rising above the Batsman's head and caught by the Catcher playing within ten feet of the Home Base, shall be termed a Foul Tip.

#### BALLS BATTED OUTSIDE THE GROUNDS.

RULE 39. When a batted ball passes outside the grounds, the Umpire shall decide it Fair should it disappear within, or Foul should it disappear outside of the range of the Foul Lines, and Rules 37 and 38 are to be construed accordingly.

RULE 40. A Fair batted ball that goes over the fence at a less distance than two hundred and ten feet from Home Base shall

entitle the Batsman to two bases and a distinctive line shall be marked on the fence at this point.

## STRIKES.

RULE 41. A Strike is

SEC. 1. A ball struck at by the Batsman without its touching his bat ; or

SEC. 2. A Fair Ball, legally delivered by the Pitcher, but not struck at by the Batsman.

SEC. 3. Any obvious attempt to make a foul hit.

RULE 42. A Foul Strike is a ball batted by the Batsman when any part of his person is upon ground outside the lines of the Batsman's position.

## THE BATSMAN IS OUT.

RULE 43. The Batsman is out :

SEC. 1. If he fails to take his position at the bat in his order of batting, unless the error be discovered and the proper Batsman takes his position before a fair hit has been made, and in such case the balls and strikes called must be counted in the time at bat of the proper Batsman : *Provided*, this rule shall not take effect unless *the out* is declared before the ball is delivered to the succeeding Batsman.

SEC. 2. If he fails to take his position within one minute after the Umpire has called for the Batsman.

SEC. 3. If he makes a Foul Hit, other than a Foul Tip as defined in Rule 38 and the ball be momentarily held by a Fielder before touching the ground, provided it be not caught in a Fielder's hat or cap, or touch some object other than a Fielder before being caught.

SEC. 4. If he makes a Foul Strike.

SEC. 5. If he attempts to hinder the Catcher from fielding the ball, evidently without effort to make a fair hit.

SEC. 6. If, while the First Base be occupied by a base runner, three strikes be called on him by the Umpire, except when two men are already out.

SEC. 7. If, while making the third strike, the ball hits his person or clothing.

SEC. 8. If, after two strikes have been called, the Batsman obviously attempts to make a foul hit, as in Section 3, Rule 41.

## BASE RUNNING RULES.

## WHEN THE BATSMAN BECOMES A BASE RUNNER.

RULE 44. The Batsman becomes a Base Runner :

SEC. 1. Instantly after he makes a Fair Hit.

SEC. 2. Instantly after four Balls have been called by the Umpire.

SEC. 3. Instantly after three strikes have been declared by the Umpire.

SEC. 4. If, while he be a Batsman, his person or clothing be hit by a ball from the pitcher, unless—in the opinion of the Umpire—he intentionally permits himself to be so hit.

SEC. 5. Instantly after an illegal delivery of a ball by the pitcher.

#### BASES TO BE TOUCHED.

RULE 45. The Base Runner must touch each Base in regular order, viz.: First, Second, Third and Home Bases; and when obliged to return (except on a foul hit) must retouch the base or bases in reverse order. He shall only be considered as holding a base after touching it, and shall then be entitled to hold such base until he has legally touched the next base in order, or has been legally forced to vacate it for a succeeding Base Runner.

#### ENTITLED TO BASES.

RULE 46. The Base Runner shall be entitled, without being put out, to take one Base in the following cases:

SEC. 1. If, while he was Batsman, the Umpire called four Balls.

SEC. 2. If the Umpire awards a succeeding Batsman a base on four balls, or for being hit with a pitched ball, or in case of an illegal delivery—as in Rule 44, Sec. 5—and the Base Runner is thereby forced to vacate the base held by him.

SEC. 3. If the Umpire calls a “balk.”

SEC. 4. If a ball delivered by the Pitcher pass the Catcher and touch the Umpire or any fence or building within ninety feet of the Home Base.

SEC. 5. If upon a fair hit the Ball strikes the person or clothing of the Umpire on fair ground.

SEC. 6. If he be prevented from making a base by the obstruction of an adversary.

SEC. 7. If the Fielder stop or catch a batted ball with his hat or any part of his dress.

#### RETURNING TO BASES.

RULE 47. The Base Runner shall return to his Base, and shall be entitled to so return without being put out.

SEC. 1. If the Umpire declares a Foul Tip (as defined in Rule 38) or any other Foul Hit not legally caught by a Fielder.

SEC. 2. If the Umpire declares a Foul Strike.

SEC. 3. If the Umpire declares a Dead Ball, unless it be also

the fourth Unfair Ball, and he be thereby forced to take the next base, as provided in Rule 46, Sec. 2.

SEC. 4. If the person or clothing of the Umpire is struck by a ball thrown by the Catcher to intercept a Base Runner.

WHEN BASE RUNNERS ARE OUT.

RULE 48. The Base Runner is out :

SEC. 1. If, after three strikes have been declared against him while Batsman, and the Catcher fail to catch the third strike ball, he plainly attempts to hinder the Catcher from fielding the ball.

SEC. 2. If, having made a Fair Hit while Batsman, such fair hit ball be momentarily held by a Fielder, before touching the ground or any object other than a Fielder: *Provided*, it be not caught in a Fielder's hat or cap.

SEC. 3. If, when the Umpire has declared three strikes on him, while batsman, the third strike ball be momentarily held by a Fielder before touching the ground. *Provided*, it be not caught in a Fielder's hat or cap, or touch some object other than a Fielder before being caught.

SEC. 4. If, after Three Strikes or a Fair Hit, he be touched with the ball in the hand of a Fielder before such Base Runner touches First Base.

SEC. 5. If, after Three Strikes or a Fair Hit, the ball be securely held by a Fielder, while touching First Base with any part of his person, before such Base Runner touches First Base.

SEC. 6. If, in running the last half of the distance from Home Base to First Base, he runs outside the Three Feet Lines, as defined in Rule 10; except that he must do so if necessary to avoid a Fielder attempting to field a batted ball, and in such case shall not be declared out.

SEC. 7. If, in running from First to Second Base, from Second to Third Base, or from Third to Home Base, he runs more than three feet from a direct line between such bases to avoid being touched by the ball in the hands of a Fielder; but in case a Fielder be occupying the Base Runner's proper path, attempting to field a batted ball, then the Base Runner shall run out of the path and behind said Fielder, and shall not be declared out for so doing.

SEC. 8. If he fails to avoid a Fielder attempting to field a batted ball, in the manner prescribed in Sections 6 and 7 of this Rule; or if he, in any way, obstructs a Fielder attempting to field a batted ball, or intentionally interferes with a thrown ball: *Provided*, That if two or more Fielders attempt to field a batted ball, and the Base Runner comes in contact with one or more of them, the Umpire shall determine which Fielder is entitled to the bene-

fit of this Rule, and shall not decide the Base Runner out for coming in contact with any other Fielder.

SEC. 9. If, at any time while the ball is in play, he be touched by the ball in the hands of a Fielder, unless some part of his person is touching a base he is entitled to occupy: *Provided*, The ball be held by the Fielder after touching him; but (exception as to First Base), in running to First Base, he may overrun said base without being put out for being off said base, after first touching it, provided he returns at once and retouches the base, after which he may be put out as at any other base. If, in overrunning First Base, he also attempts to run to Second Base, or, after passing the base he turns to his left from the foul line, he shall forfeit such exemption from being put out.

SEC. 10. If, when a Fair or Foul Hit ball, other than a foul tip as referred to in Rule 38, is legally caught by a Fielder, such ball is legally held by a Fielder on the base occupied by the Base Runner when such ball was struck (or the Base Runner be touched with the ball in the hands of a Fielder), before he retouches said base after such Fair or Foul Hit ball was so caught. *Provided*, That the Base Runner shall not be out in such case, if, after the ball was legally caught as above, it be delivered to the bat by the Pitcher before the Fielder holds it on said base, or touches the Base Runner with it; but if the Base Runner in attempting to reach a base, detaches it before being touched or forced out he shall be declared safe.

SEC. 11. If, when a Batsman becomes a Base Runner, the First Base, or the First and Second Bases, or the First, Second and Third Bases, be occupied, any Base Runner so occupying a base shall cease to be entitled to hold it, until any following Base Runner is put out and may be put out at the next base or by being touched by the ball in the hands of a Fielder in the same manner as in running to First Base, at any time before any following Base Runner is put out.

SEC. 12. If a Fair Hit ball strike him *before touching the fielder* and in such case no base shall be run unless forced by the Batsman becoming a Base Runner, and no run shall be scored.

SEC. 13. If when running to a base or forced to return to a base, he fail to touch the intervening base or bases, if any, in the order prescribed in Rule 45, he may be put out at the base he fails to touch, or by being touched by the ball in the hands of a Fielder, in the same manner as in running to First Base.

SEC. 14. If, when the Umpire calls "Play," after any suspension of a game, he fails to return to and touch the base he occupied when "Time" was called before touching the next base.



## WHEN BATSMAN OR BASE RUNNER IS OUT.

**RULE 49.** The Umpire shall declare the Batsman or Base Runner out, without waiting for an appeal for such decision, in all cases where such player is put out in accordance with these rules, except as provided in Rule 48, Sections 10 and 14.

## COACHING RULES.

**RULE 50.** The Captains and Coachers are restricted in coaching to the Base Runner only, and are not allowed to address any remarks except to the Base Runner, and then only in words of necessary direction; and no player shall use language which will in any manner refer to or reflect upon a player of the opposing club, or the audience. To enforce the above, the Captain of the opposite side may call the attention of the Umpire to the offence, and upon a repetition of the same the club shall be debarred from further coaching during the game.

## THE UMPIRE.

**RULE 51.** The Umpire shall not be changed during the progress of a game, except for reasons of illness or injury.

## HIS POWERS AND JURISDICTION.

**RULE 52. SEC. 1.** The Umpire is master of the Field from the commencement to the termination of the game, and is entitled to the respect of the spectators, and any person offering any insult or indignity to him must be promptly ejected from the grounds.

**SEC. 2.** He must compel the players to observe the provisions of all the Playing Rules, and he is hereby invested with authority to order any player to do or omit to do any act as he may deem necessary, to give force and effect to any and all of such provisions.

## SPECIAL DUTIES.

**RULE 53.** The Umpire's duties shall be as follows:

**SEC. 1.** The Umpire is the sole and absolute judge of play. In no instance shall any person be allowed to question the correctness of any decision made by him except the Captains of the contending nines, and no other player shall at such time leave his position in the field, his place at the bat, on the bases or players' bench, to approach or address the Umpire in word or act upon such disputed decision. Neither shall any Manager or other officers of either club—except the Captains as before mentioned—be permitted to go upon the field or address the Umpire in regard to such disputed decision, under a penalty of a forfeiture

of the game to the opposing club. The Umpire shall in no case appeal to any spectator for information in regard to any case, and shall not reverse his decision on any point of play on the testimony of any player or bystander.

SEC. 2. Before the commencement of a Game, the Umpire shall see that the rules governing all the materials of the game are strictly observed. He shall ask the Captain of the Home Club whether there are any special ground rules to be enforced, and if there are, he shall see that they are duly enforced, provided they do not conflict with any of these Rules. He shall also ascertain whether the fence in the rear of the Catcher's position is distant ninety feet from the Home Base.

SEC. 3. The Umpire must keep the contesting nines playing constantly from the commencement of the game to its termination, allowing such delays only as are rendered unavoidable by accident, injury or rain. He must, until the completion of the game, require the players of each side to promptly take their positions in the field as soon as the third man is put out, and must require the first striker of the opposite side to be in his position at the bat as soon as the fielders are in their places.

SEC. 4. The Umpire shall count and call every "unfair ball" delivered by the Pitcher, and every "dead ball," if also an unfair ball, as a "ball," and he shall also count and call every "strike." Neither a "ball" nor a "strike" shall be counted or called until the ball has passed the home base. He shall also declare every "Dead Ball," "Block," "Foul Hit," "Foul Strike," and "Balk."

RULE 54. For the special benefit of the patrons of the game, and because the offences specified are under his immediate jurisdiction, and not subject to appeal by players, the attention of the Umpire is particularly directed to possible violations of the purpose and spirit of the Rules of the following character:

SEC. 1. Laziness or loafing of players in taking their places in the field, or those allotted them by the Rules when their side is at the bat, and especially any failure to keep the bats in the racks provided for them; to be ready (two men) to take position as Batsmen, and to remain upon the Players' Bench, except when otherwise required by the Rules.

SEC. 2. Any attempt by players of the side at bat, by calling to a Fielder, other than the one designated by his Captain, to field a ball, or by any other equally disreputable means seeking to disconcert a Fielder.

SEC. 3. The Rules make a marked distinction between hindrance of an adversary in fielding a batted or thrown ball. This has been done to rid the game of the childish excuses and claims formerly made by a Fielder failing to hold a ball to put out a Base

**Runner.** But there may be cases of a Base Runner so flagrantly violating the spirit of the Rules and of the Game in obstructing a Fielder from fielding a thrown ball that it would become the duty of the Umpire, not only to declare the Base Runner "out" (and to compel any succeeding Base Runners to hold their bases), but also to impose a heavy fine upon him. For example: If the Base Runner plainly strike at the ball while passing him, to prevent its being caught by a Fielder; if he holds a Fielder's arms so as to disable him from catching the ball, or if he run against or knock the Fielder down for the same purpose.

#### CALLING "PLAY" AND "TIME."

**RULE 55.** The Umpire must call "Play," promptly at the hour designated by the Home Club, and on the call of "Play" the game must immediately begin. When he calls "Time," play shall be suspended until he calls "Play" again, and during the interim no player shall be put out, base be run, or run be scored. The Umpire shall suspend play only for an accident to himself or a player (but in case of accident to a Fielder, "Time" shall not be called until the ball be returned to, and held by the Pitcher, standing in his position), or in case rain falls so heavily that the spectators are compelled, by the severity of the storm, to seek shelter, in which case he shall note the time of suspension, and should such rain continue to fall thirty minutes thereafter, he shall terminate the game; or to enforce order in case of annoyance from spectators.

**RULE 56.** The Umpire is only allowed, by the Rules, to call "Time" in case of an accident to himself or a player, a "Block," as referred to in Rule 35, Sec. 3, or in case of rain, as defined by the Rules. The practice of players suspending the game to discuss or contest a discussion with the Umpire, is a gross violation of the Rules, and the Umpire must promptly fine any player who interrupts the game in this manner.

#### INFLECTING FINES.

**RULE 57.** The Umpire is empowered to inflict fines of not less than \$5.00 nor more than \$25.00 for the first offence on players during the progress of a game, as follows:

**SEC 1.** For indecent or improper language addressed to the audience, the Umpire or any player.

**SEC. 2.** For the Captain or Coacher willfully failing to remain within the legal bounds of his position, except upon an appeal by the Captain from the Umpire's decision upon a misinterpretation of the rules.

**SEC. 3.** For the disobedience by a player of any other of his orders, or for any other violation of these Rules.

SEC. 4. In case the Umpire imposes a fine on a player, he shall at once notify the Captain of the offending player's side, and shall transmit a written notice thereof to the President of the Association or League within twenty-four hours thereafter, under the penalty of having said fine taken from his own salary.

SEC. 5. A repetition of any of the above offences shall, at the discretion of the Umpire, subject the offender either to a repetition of the fine or to removal from the field and the immediate substitution of another player then in uniform.

#### FIELD RULES.

RULE 58. No Club shall allow open betting or pool selling upon its grounds, nor in any building owned or occupied by it.

RULE 59. No person shall be allowed upon any part of the field during the progress of the game, in addition to the players in uniform, the Manager on each side and the Umpire; except such officers of the law as may be present in uniform, and such officials of the Home Club as may be necessary to preserve the peace.

RULE 60. No Umpire, Manager, Captain or Player shall address the audience during the progress of a game, except in case of necessary explanation.

RULE 61. Every Club shall furnish sufficient police force upon its own grounds to preserve order, and in the event of a crowd entering the field during the progress of a game, and interfering with the play in any manner, the Visiting Club may refuse to play further until the field be cleared. If the ground be not cleared within fifteen minutes thereafter, the Visiting Club may claim, and shall be entitled to, the game by a score of nine runs to none (no matter what number of innings have been played).

#### GENERAL DEFINITIONS.

RULE 62. "Play" is the order of the Umpire to begin the game or to resume play after its suspension.

RULE 63. "Time" is the order of the Umpire to suspend play. Such suspension must not extend beyond the day of the game.

RULE 64. "Game" is the announcement by the Umpire that the game is terminated.

RULE 65. "An Inning" is the term at bat of the nine players representing a Club in a game, and is completed when three of such players have been put out as provided in these Rules.

RULE 66. "A Time at Bat" is the term at bat of a Batsman. It begins when he takes his position, and continues until he is put out or becomes a Base Runner; except when, because of being hit by a pitched ball, or in case of an illegal delivery by the Pitcher, as in Rule 44.

RULE 67. "Legal" or "Legally" signifies as required by these Rules.

## SCORING.

RULE 68. In order to promote Uniformity in Scoring Championship Games, the following instructions, suggestions and definitions are made for the benefit of scorers, and they are required to make all scores in accordance therewith.

## BATTING.

SEC. 1. The first item in the tabulated score, after the player's name and position, shall be the number of times he has been at bat during the game. The time or times where the player has been sent to base by being hit by a pitched ball, by the pitcher's illegal delivery, or by a base on balls shall not be included in this column.

SEC. 2. In the second column should be set down the runs made by each player.

SEC. 3. In the third column should be placed the first base hits made by each player. A base hit should be scored in the following cases :

When the ball from the bat strikes the ground within the foul lines, and out of reach of the fielders.

When a hit ball is partially or wholly stopped by a fielder in motion, but such player cannot recover himself in time to handle the ball before the striker reaches First Base.

When a hit ball is hit so sharply to an infielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the batsman. In case of doubt over this class of hits, score a base hit, and exempt the fielder from the charge of an error.

When a ball is hit so slowly towards a fielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the batsman.

That in all cases where a base runner is retired by being hit by a batted ball, the batsman should be credited with a base hit.

When a batted ball hits the person or clothing of the Umpire, as defined in Rule 37.

SEC. 4. In the fourth column shall be placed Sacrifice Hits, which shall be credited to the batsman, who when but one man is out advances a runner a base on a fly to the outfield or a ground hit, which results in putting out the batsman, or would so result if handled without error.

## FIELDING.

SEC. 5. The number of opponents put out by each player shall be set down in the fifth column. Where a striker is given out by the Umpire for a foul strike, or because he struck out of his turn, the put-out shall be scored to the Catcher.

SEC. 6. The number of times the player assists shall be set down in the sixth column. An assist should be given to each

player who handles the ball in assisting a run out or other play of the kind.

An assist should be given to a player who makes a play in time to put a runner out, even if the player who should complete the play fails, through no fault of the player assisting.

And generally an assist should be given to each player who handles the ball from the time it leaves the bat until it reaches the player who makes the put out, or in case of a thrown ball, to each player who throws or handles it cleanly and in such a way that a put-out results, or would result if no error were made by the receiver.

#### ERRORS.

SEC. 7. An error shall be given in the seventh column for each misplay which allows the striker or base runner to make one or more bases when perfect play would have insured his being put out, except that "wild pitches," "bases on balls," "bases on the batsman being struck by a pitched ball," or case of illegal pitched ball, balks and passed balls, shall not be included in said column. In scoring errors of batted balls see Section 3 of this Rule.

#### STOLEN BASES.

SEC. 8. Stolen bases shall be scored as follows :

Any attempt to steal a base must go to the credit of the base runner, whether the ball is thrown wild or muffed by the fielder, but any manifest error is to be charged to the fielder making the same. If the base runner advances another base he shall not be credited with a stolen base, and the fielder allowing the advancement is also to be charged with an error. If a base runner makes a start and a battery error is made, the runner secures the credit of a stolen base, and the battery error is scored against the player making it. Should a base runner overrun a base and then be put out, he should receive the credit for the stolen base.

#### EARNED RUNS.

SEC. 9. An earned run shall be scored every time the player reaches the home base unaided by errors before chances have been offered to retire the side.

#### THE SUMMARY.

RULE 69. The Summary shall contain :

- SEC. 1. The number of earned runs made by each side.
- SEC. 2. The number of two-base hits made by each player.
- SEC. 3. The number of three-base hits made by each player.
- SEC. 4. The number of home runs made by each player.
- SEC. 5. The number of bases stolen by each player.

SEC. 6. The number of double and triple plays made by each side, with the names of the players assisting in the same.

SEC. 7. The number of men given bases on called balls, by each Pitcher.

SEC. 8. The number of men given bases from being hit by pitched balls.

SEC. 9. The number of men struck out.

SEC. 10. The number of passed balls by each Catcher.

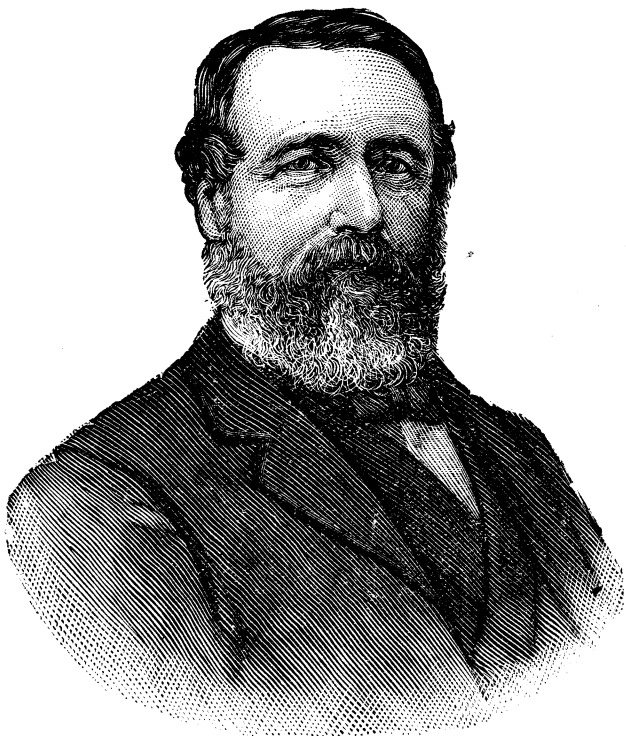
SEC. 11. The number of wild pitches by each Pitcher.

SEC. 12. The time of game.

SEC. 13. The name of the Umpire.

#### AMENDMENTS.

RULE 70. No Amendment or change of any of these National Playing Rules shall be made, except by a joint committee on rules, consisting of three members from the National League and three members from the American Association. Such committee to be appointed at the annual meetings of each of said bodies to serve one year from the twentieth day of December of each year. Such committee shall have full power to act, provided that such amendments shall be made only by an affirmative vote of the majority of each delegation.



### HENRY CHADWICK—"Father of Base Ball."

Henry Chadwick, the veteran journalist, upon whom the honored sobriquet of "Father of Base Ball" rests so happily and well, appears in portraiture, and so well preserved is his physical manhood that his sixty-three years rest lightly upon his well timed life. Since the age of thirteen he has resided in Brooklyn, New York, and is an honored member of the distinguished society of old Brooklynites. He entered upon the journalistic career in which he has attained eminent distinction in 1856, his first work finding a ready field on the *New York Times*. In 1857 he associated himself with the *New York Clipper*, and was identified with that journal steadily for thirty-one years. After twenty-nine years of remarkable devotion to the interests of morning journalism in the metropolis Mr. Chadwick retired in 1886, to accept an editorial position on the *Outing Magazine*, which, together with his work on the *Brooklyn Eagle*, keeps his ready pen busy. He is one of the most valued contributors on *The Sporting Life* staff, and his work in other journals has made his name a household word as the "Father of Base Ball." He comes from a famous family of English birth, his brother, Mr. Edwin Chadwick, being the noted sanitary philosopher of England. Mr. Chadwick has edited our *League Guide* since 1880.

A. G. SPALDING & BROS., Chicago and New York.



## AN EXPLANATORY APPENDIX

—TO THE—

### NEW CODE OF RULES FOR 1889.

The experience of each season in regard to the conflicting opinions of umpires and players in their interpretation of the code of playing rules, has made it a necessity on the part of the editor of the GUIDE, to devote a special chapter each year to the subject of properly interpreting every important rule of the game. This year we make up this special chapter in the form of an *Explanatory Appendix* to the new code, which is officially indorsed by the President of the National League, and the Secretary of the Joint Committee on Rules of the League and the American Association.

Taking up the rules of the new code in their regular order, we proceed to give the official interpretation of the practical application of each newly amended rule, as also of every rule, of the correct definition of which there is likely to arise any question.

#### THE PLAYERS ON EACH SIDE.

"In no case shall less than nine men be allowed to play on each side." So says Rule 14. The practical application of the rule is that if a club has not nine men ready to take the field at the hour appointed for beginning a regularly scheduled championship game, the club short handed must forfeit the game. Moreover, if they begin play with the required complement of men, and one of the number becomes injured and disabled from service in the field, and they have no legal substitute player to take the disabled man's place, the game cannot be continued with but eight men in the field, and therefore it must be similarly forfeited.

#### PLAYERS MUST BE IN UNIFORM.

Rule 17 requires that "every club shall be required to adopt uniforms for the players;" and Rule 28 renders it necessary that at least one substitute player shall be ready "in uniform" to take the place of a disabled player, or to become the tenth player of the team in accordance with section 2 of Rule 28.

## A TENTH MAN AS SUBSTITUTE.

Besides the regular substitute player required to be ready to take the place of a disabled player, Rule 28—a new amendment—admits of an *independent substitute player* on each side, whose services in the field are held subject to the requirement of either of the two Captains whenever he shall deem it advisable to remove any player, who, though not disabled “by illness or injury,” is not doing the work in the field to the Captain’s satisfaction. But such substitute can only replace another player at the close of a regular innings play; and, moreover, the player whose place the extra substitute takes, cannot again take part in the game then being played.

It should be borne in mind that this special rule was adopted not only to enable the Captain of a team to strengthen a weak point discovered during the progress of the game, but also to enable him to utilize new talent when the game has been virtually won, as the experience in such instances is especially valuable to young players, notably so in the case of battery players. It also enables the Captain to save the work of a valuable battery player from a prolonged strain rendered unnecessary by the winning lead obtained.

## PUTTING A NEW BALL IN PLAY.

Rule 12, Sec. 2, requires the Umpire to call for the putting in play of the substitute ball whenever the ball previously in play, is batted foul over the fence or the grand stands, “*out of the sight of the players.*” Also in case the ball in play becomes “*unfit for fair use,*” as to which the Umpire is the sole judge.

A new ball can only be called for in case neither of the two balls in use are legally available for service.

## THE NEW RULE FOR PITCHERS.

The amended rule governing the delivery of the ball by the pitcher—Rule 18 of the new code—has had the words “his left foot in front of the right, and to the left of an imaginary line from his right foot to the center of the home base” eliminated from it, and in consequence the pitcher is not now required to abide by that portion of the rule, which governed his movements in 1888. The pitcher’s position, when he prepares to deliver the ball to the bat, must be that in which he stands with both feet squarely on the ground, and with one foot—left or right—placed on the rear line of his position. While thus standing ready to deliver the ball, he must hold it before him in full sight of the Umpire. The words “in the act of delivering the ball” refer to the very last motion in delivery, and in making this motion the rear foot is of necessity placed on the ground, as it is from this standpoint that the power to give the last impetus to the ball in delivery is derived. Con-

sequently the foot cannot be lifted from the ground entirely until the ball leaves his hand. In making his regular motions to deliver while he is prohibited from lifting the entire foot in the rear line from the ground, he is not debarred from lifting the heel of the foot an inch or so. In making the preliminary movements, too, he cannot take but one forward step, though he can make this single step in any way he chooses, provided it be a regular and habitual motion of his delivery.

#### FEIGNING TO THROW TO A BASE.

When the pitcher feigns to throw to a base prior to delivering the ball to the bat, in every such instance after making the feint to throw, he must resume his original position, "facing the batsman," and "holding the ball fairly in front of his body," and "momentarily pause before delivering the ball to the bat." If he makes a feint to throw and then delivers the ball with one apparent motion, without pausing to stand, he commits a balk.

#### THE ORDER OF BATTING.

Rule 19 says that "Batsmen must take their position at the bat in the order in which they are named on *the score*." This *score* is not sufficiently defined in the rule, but it means the printed or written order of batting, which each captain of the contesting team presents to the umpire prior to the commencement of the game; and such order, on approval of the umpire, should be copied verbatim in the score book of the official scorer of the home club, who alone is authorized to send a copy of the score of the game, as the official copy, to the secretary of the League or Association the club belongs to.

After the order of batting has been submitted to the umpire, it becomes the official order, and after being thus indorsed it cannot be changed except in the case of a substitute player taking the place either of a disabled player, or that of a removed player—under the new rule—and in such case the incoming substitute player takes the place in the order of batting of the disabled or removed player.

#### THE CAPTAIN CAN PLACE HIS MEN AS HE LIKES.

The captain of a nine can place his nine men in any position of the field he chooses. There is in fact no arbitrary rule governing the placing of the men except in the case of the pitcher, and he of course must always occupy the pitcher's box. Under Rule 15, the captain can place his infielders, in close within the diamond, or all outside of it, also the outfielders, either in close to the infielders, or lying out deep or close to the foul line, etc. But the pitcher of the ball must always be in the "box" when delivering the ball.

## THE DEFINITION OF THE BALK.

Rule 32, Section I, defines a balk as "Any motion made by the pitcher to deliver the ball to the bat without delivering it." This definition embraces every one of the motions the pitcher is accustomed to make preliminary to the actual delivery of the ball, whether of his hands, arms, or feet, or any motion of his body. He cannot therefore make any pretense of delivering the ball while not having the ball in his hand ready to deliver it as in the case of a base player hiding the ball while the pitcher acts as if he himself had possession of it—without his making a balk.

The words "any motion calculated to deceive a base runner," refer to pretended movements to deliver outside of those referred to in the first portion of the rule.

## TAKING A BASE ON A BALK.

There is an important distinction between a "*balk*" and an "*illegal delivery*." A "*balk*" is made when the pitcher makes a motion to deliver the ball to the bat without following such motion with actual delivery, or if he holds the ball in his hand long enough to unnecessarily delay the game. An "*illegal delivery*" is made when the pitcher steps out of his "box" in delivery, or lifts his rear foot from the ground before the ball leaves his hand—his lifting his foot afterward is of no account—or if he fails to pause before delivery after making a feint to throw to a base. In the case of a "*balk*," every occupant of a base, as a base runner, becomes entitled to one base, whether forced by the batsman or not. But the batsman cannot take a base on a "*balk*." In the case of an "*illegal delivery*," however, while occupants of bases can only take a base on such delivery in case of being "*forced off*," the batsman is given a base on such illegal delivery. While an "*illegal delivery*" is in the nature of a balk, it is not an actual "*balk*" as technically termed in the rules.

## DEAD BALLS.

The ball cannot be used to put a player on the batting side out, either in the case of a batted ball to foul ground not caught on the fly; a called *foul strike*; a runner being hit by a batted ball; a pitched ball striking the batsman, or striking his bat without being intentionally struck at; or from the ball striking the umpire while he is on foul ground, before it passes the catcher; or, in the case of a called block ball, until said ball is *first held by the pitcher while standing within his position*.

## THE FOUL TIP CATCH.

The elimination of the sharp foul-tip catch from the rules will necessitate the placing of a white line, forming a half circle, within a radius of ten feet from the home base, and located on foul

ground, as it is only foul tips caught within ten feet of the home base which do not put the batsman out.

#### THE BLOCKING OF BALLS.

Any interference with the progress of a batted or thrown ball by any person not one of the contesting players in a game, is what is termed *blocking the ball*. Suppose a ball is batted to the short stop, and that fielder overthrows the ball to first base, and it goes toward the crowd and is there stopped or touched by an outsider, the moment this stoppage of the ball or interference with it occurs, the umpire must call "Block ball," and until the ball is returned to the field and held by the pitcher while in his "box," it is *dead* for putting out any base runner; and such runners are permitted to run all the bases they can until the ball is thus put legally into play. But should such overthrown ball, in addition to its being stopped or diverted from its course by any outsider, be also kicked aside or picked up and thrown out of reach by a fielder, the umpire must in addition call "Time," in which case runners shall only be entitled to hold such bases as they had touched before the ball had been so kicked or thrown out of reach, the ball, as in the prior case, not being in play until held by the pitcher while in his box.

#### HITTING BALLS FOUL INTENTIONALLY.

Rule 42, Section III, requires the umpire to call a strike on the batsman every time he makes "an obvious attempt to make a foul hit." Rule 43, Section XIII, states that "If, after two strikes have been called, the batsman *obviously attempts to make a foul hit*," he is out. Last year these rules were both misinterpreted by umpires. In the first place, in both cases the *intention* of the batsman must be plainly manifest; and to judge of this the circumstances of the case must be taken into consideration. For instance, if the batsman *bunts* a ball foul when a runner is on a base, it is evident that he does so unintentionally, for no point of play is to be gained by such a foul hit. Then, too, the hitting of a foul ball must be repeatedly done before such hitting can be adjudged as otherwise than accidental.

#### BATTING OUT OF ORDER.

Rule 43 states that the batsman who fails to bat in his proper turn according to the approved order of batting, must be decided out by the umpire, unless the error in question be discovered and the right batsman be sent to the bat in the regular order "*before a fair hit has been made.*" If, before the mistake is discovered, "strikes" or "balls" be called upon the batsman who is out of his order of batting, such strikes and balls shall be counted against the batsman who should have gone to the bat in the regular order. But the violation of the rule must be declared by

the field Captain before the ball is delivered to a succeeding batsman, or the penalty of an out cannot be enforced, the mistake, of course, being at once corrected, without the enforcement of the penalty.

#### RETURNING TO BASES ON FOUL BALLS.

The change made in Rule 45 is to the effect that base runners required to return to bases which they had left on a hit ball, can, if the ball be hit foul and not caught on the fly, return to their respective bases directly. For instance, suppose the batsman hits a long fly ball to right field, on which he runs to third base before the ball falls on foul ground, under the old rule he would be required to return to home base after retouching second and first bases; but under the new rule he can in such case return to home base direct from third, instead of returning around the diamond. The object of the amended rule was to save loss of time by a runner's leisurely return to the base he had left.

#### HOLDING BASES AFTER TOUCHING THEM.

Rule 45, in its reference to a base runner having the right to hold a base after touching it, is to be thus defined: Suppose that base runners are on third and second bases, and that the runner on third is trying to steal home, and in doing so vacates third base and runs for home base, the occupant of second base in the meantime running to third base and holding that base; and suppose that in such case the runner from third to home finds himself likely to be put out at home base, and then returns to third base, he still has the right to that base, and having such right, the runner from second to third must give up holding third base and try and get back to second, failing which, and preferring to hold third base, he can be put out there even while standing on third base, provided the legal occupant of that base is also standing on that base, but not otherwise.

#### OBSTRUCTING BASE RUNNERS.

Rule 46, Section VI, states that a base runner is entitled to the base he is running to "*if he be prevented from making that base by the obstruction of an adversary.*" Now the correct interpretation of this rule is that such obstruction as that in question must be that at the hands of a fielder who has not the ball in hand ready to touch the runner. Of course if the runner is met by the fielder with ball in hand ready to touch the runner, and thus stands directly in the path of the runner, no legal obstruction has been presented, though in fact he is obstructed. But the "obstruction" meant by the rule is that presented by a fielder who has not the ball in hand at the time.

## A THROWN BALL HITTING THE UMPIRE ON FAIR GROUND.

Rule 47, Section IV, states that "The base runner shall return to his base and be entitled to so return without being put out, if the person or clothing of the umpire is struck by a ball thrown by the catcher to intercept a base runner." Rule 46, in referring to base runners entitled to take bases without being put out, states that "if a fair hit ball strikes the person or clothing of the umpire, the batsman making the hit, or a base runner running a base upon such a hit, shall be entitled to the base he is running for without being put out." For instance, suppose there is a runner at first base trying to steal second, and the catcher throws the ball to the second baseman to cut him off, and that the ball thus thrown hits the umpire and glances off out of the reach of the fielders, the runner in such case, while being debarred from making second base by the accident, is allowed to return to the base he left without being put out. But the umpire must see to it that the ball is not intentionally thrown to hit the umpire with a view of preventing what would otherwise be a successful steal. In other words, the throw in question must be an accidental one, or it must be judged as an illegal play.

## THE COACHING RULE.

Umpires must enforce the rule governing the "coaching" of base runners in accordance with the spirit as well as the letter of the law, and this forbids the addressing of any remarks except to the base runner, and then only in words of necessary direction. Moreover, no coacher is allowed to use any language, in his position either as player or coacher, "which shall in any way" refer to or reflect upon a player of the opposing club. The noisy, vulgar yelling of some coaches is in direct violation of the spirit of the rule, as it is done, not to coach the runner, but to confuse the pitcher or catcher, and distract their attention. The penalty for violating the rule is the suspension of all coaching by the offending club during the remainder of the game.

## PLAYERS MUST BE SEATED ON THEIR BENCH.

Rule 54, Section I, requires that all the players of the batting side when not actually engaged in batting, base running or in coaching—as in the case of the two appointed coaches—must remain seated on the bench until called in their turn to go to the bat. The umpire too, must see to it that the requirements of this same rule be strictly enforced in regard to keeping the bats in the racks, and not allow them to be laid on the ground in the way of the catcher running to catch foul balls.

## REMOVING A PLAYER FOR KICKING.

The most important change in the rules affecting the duties of

the umpire is that made in Rule 57, Section V, which gives the umpire the discretionary power to remove an offending player from the field who is found violating Rule 57.

It should be borne in mind, however, that the rule is not compulsory, for if it were so, a captain desirous of substituting another player for one in the field, after he had availed himself of the tenth man rule, might conspire with a player to violate the rule intentionally to aid the captain in getting in an extra man.

#### ON CALLED STRIKES.

In the case of a called third strike when two men are out, Rule 43, Section VI., requires the ball to be held on the fly whether first base be occupied or not, in order to put the batsman out. But in the case of the first base being occupied by a base runner, when only one man is out, when the third strike is called, in such case the batsman is out on called strikes, whether the ball on the third called strike is held on the fly or not. The batsman is out too,—under the new rule—if, *when the third strike is called, the pitched ball hits him or touches his clothing.*

#### ON FORFEITED GAMES.

The Joint Rules Committee have decided that an umpire cannot declare any game forfeited of his own motion, though in Rule 26 it states that forfeited games are incurred under several conditions, one of which definitely states is the wilful violation of any one rule of the code. But he can declare a game forfeited under any one of the specified conditions in Rule 26 if requested to do so by the captain of the club at fault. Section IV of Rule 26 gives the umpire the discretionary power to declare any game forfeited in which he is personally cognizant of the fact of any single rule having been wilfully violated, the offending team forfeiting the game then and there. But only in very rare cases should this power be used in opposition to the wishes of the captain of the team not in fault. When the rules have been plainly violated and the captain of the team not in fault claims forfeit, the umpire must enforce the penalty.

#### THE UMPIRE'S POWER.

Under Section II of Rule 52 the umpire *is invested with the authority to order any player to do, or to omit to do, any act, as he may deem it necessary*, to give force or effect to any or all of the provisions of the code of playing rules. This gives him the authority to decide all disputed points in a game not expressly covered by the rules, subject, of course, to legal protest.

#### JUDGING THE CONDITION OF THE FIELD.

Rule 29 gives the captain of the home club the sole power to decide whether the field is in condition for play at the hour ap-



pointed for beginning a game. But after a game has been commenced, and it be interrupted by rain, the umpire alone decides whether the field is in fair condition for resuming play after such suspension of the game.

#### THE UMPIRE SOLE JUDGE OF ILLNESS OR INJURY.

Rule 28 makes the umpire the sole judge as to the nature and extent of the "illness or injury" claimed to disable a player from service on the field. The captains have nothing to say in the matter. All they can do is to appeal to the umpire, and abide by his decision.

#### GAMES STOPPED BY RAIN.

Rule 55 the umpire is prohibited from suspending play in a match game on account of rain, unless '*rain falls so heavily that the spectators are compelled, by the severity of the storm, to seek shelter.*' If the rain is light, or an ordinary drizzle, it is not sufficient to legalize the suspension of the play.

#### THE CAPTAIN ONLY CAN ADDRESS THE UMPIRE.

Rules 53 and 57 are explicit in prohibiting any player, except the captain of the nine, from addressing the umpire in regard to any decision he may make; and even the captain can only do so in the case of a question involving an error in misinterpreting the rules. If the decision disputed involves only an error of judgment, even the captain has no right to question the decision. In every case of a violation of this rule, the umpire must fine the offender *five dollars*, or he himself be liable to immediate dismissal for violating the rules.

#### BATSMEN CHANGING POSITION.

Last season a custom came into vogue which virtually violated Section V of Rule 43. It was the habit some batsmen had of jumping from one batting position to the other just as the pitcher was about to deliver the ball to the bat, this act virtually hindering the catcher from properly fielding the pitched ball. While no rule should prevent a batsman from batting from either the left or the right batting position at his option it certainly was never intended to allow the change to be made while play was in progress: and it therefore becomes the duty of the umpire to interpret this rule according to its spirit, and to regard the action of a batsman in jumping from one position to the other while the ball is in play from pitcher to catcher as hindering the catcher, and in such case he should declare him out.

#### INTERFERING WITH A BATTED OR THROWN BALL.

Rule 48 prohibits a base runner from interfering with a fielder attempting to field a batted ball. The runner has no right to the

line of the base when a fielder is occupying it in the effort to catch a fly ball, or to field a batted ball; nor can a base runner make any attempt to hinder or obstruct a fielder from fielding a thrown ball without his being promptly decided out. In all cases the base runner must run off the line of the bases to avoid interfering with a fielder standing on the line of the bases to field a batted ball. Section VIII of Rule 28 says, "*Or intentionally interferes with a thrown ball,*" and the intention is judged by his effort to avoid interference or not.

#### PASSED BALLS WHICH GIVE A BASE.

Rule 46, Section IV., states that in the case of a pitched ball which passes the catcher and then touches the umpire; or if such passed ball touches any fence or building within ninety feet of the home base, the runner is entitled to one base without being put out, and can of course take more at his own risk.

#### OVERRUNNING FIRST BASE.

The base runner, in running to first base, is only exempt from being touched out after overrunning the base, when he turns to the right after overrunning the base. If he crosses the foul line after overrunning, toward second base, that is tantamount to turning to the left, but so long as he is on foul ground after overrunning the base, it is immaterial whether he turns to the left or to the right. The leaving foul ground in overrunning decides the point against him. It is best, however, always to turn to the right in returning.

#### DOUBTFUL DECISIONS IN FAVOR OF THE BATTING SIDE.

The rules expressly make a distinction in favor of the batting side in all cases where there is any doubt as to the player being fairly out. Especially is this the case in the case of the batsman's being put out at first base, for Section IV. of Rule 48 requires the ball to be securely held by the base player "*before*" the runner touches the base in order to put him out, and the rule applies to the touching out of all base runners on bases; the words being "*before*" the runner reaches the base, if at the same time, he—the runner—is not out. Time and again were base runners unfairly decided out last season in cases where the ball was held by the base player simultaneously with the runner's touching the base, every such decision being illegal.

In regard to the umpire's enforcement of Rule 48, President Young says, "Too many base runners are decided out when the ball is held by the base player simultaneously with the runner's reaching the base, which decisions are illegal." If umpires will strictly enforce the rule it will greatly increase the chances for base running and team work at the bat.

Mr. Byrne, of the Joint Rules Committee, in joining with Mr. Young in having this rule enforced, says: "We are doing all we can to encourage base stealing and a proper attention to the rule, by more frequently deciding men safe at first, as it will add interest to the game. I believe, too, that it would be wise in all cases of decision on first base points for the Umpire to give the base runner the benefit of the doubt."

#### BATTED BALLS HITTING THE BASES.

Since the first and third bases were placed entirely on fair ground and within the foul lines, every batted ball touching either the first or third base bag, must be declared a fair ball, no matter where it strikes after touching either bag. It would be better to have the bags in question on foul ground, so as to make every batted ball foul that strikes them; but until this is done, all such batted balls must be declared fair.

#### COACHERS MUST KEEP WITHIN THEIR LINES.

Captains or their assistants who engage in "coaching" base runners, must keep within the lines of their designated position, or if they attempt to coach a runner while standing outside of their position, or to run toward home base outside the lines of their position, they must be fined five dollars for each violation of the rule.

#### OPEN BETTING PROHIBITED.

Rule 58 prohibits open betting on all ball grounds of clubs governed by the rules of the *National Agreement*. The penalty for a violation of this rule is the forfeiture of the game which is being played when the rule is violated; and the Umpire must enforce this rule or be amenable to a prompt removal from his position.

#### NO UMPIRE TO BE INSULTED.

Rule 52 states that "the umpire is master of the field from the commencement to the termination of the game; and he is entitled to the respect of the spectators, and *any person offering any insult or indignity to him must be promptly ejected from the grounds,*" under the penalty of a forfeiture of the game.

# NATIONAL LEAGUE SCHEDULE OF CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES FOR 1889.

CLUBS.	At Boston.	At New York.	At Philadelphia	At Washington	At Chicago.	At Cleveland	At Pittsburg.	At Indianapolis
	.....	April 24	April 29	May 3	June 28	July 4, a.m.	June 19	June 24
	.....	" 25	" 30	" 4	" 29	" 4, p.m.	" 20	" 25
	.....	" 26	May 1	" 6	July 1	" 5	" 21	" 26
	.....	" 27	" 2	" 7	" 2	" 6	" 22	" 27
	.....	June 10	July 25	Aug. 1	Aug. 8	Aug. 15	Aug. 12	Aug. 5
Boston.....	.....	" 11	" 26	" 2	" 9	" 16	" 13	" 6
	.....	" 12	" 27	" 3	" 10	" 17	" 14	" 7
	.....	Aug. 29	Aug. 26	Sept. 19	Sept. 23	Sept. 30	Oct. 3	Sept. 26
	.....	" 30	" 27	" 20	" 24	Oct. 1	" 4	" 27
	.....	" 31	" 28	" 21	" 25	" 2	" 5	" 28
	May 8	.....	May 3	June 1	June 24	June 19	July 4, a.m.	June 28
	" 9	.....	" 4	" 3	" 25	" 20	" 4, p.m.	" 29
	" 10	.....	" 6	" 4	" 26	" 21	" 5	July 1
	" 11	.....	" 7	" 5	" 27	" 22	" 6	" 2
New York.....	June 6	.....	July 22	July 29	Aug. 5	Aug. 12	Aug. 15	Aug. 8
	" 7	.....	" 23	" 30	" 6	" 13	" 16	" 9
	" 8	.....	" 24	" 31	" 7	" 14	" 17	" 10
	Aug. 19	.....	Sept. 19	Sept. 16	Sept. 26	Oct. 3	Sept. 30	Sept. 23
	" 20	.....	" 20	" 17	" 27	" 4	Oct. 1	" 24
	" 21	.....	" 21	" 18	" 28	" 5	" 2	" 25
	June 1	June 13	.....	April 24	June 19	June 24	June 28	July 4, a.m.
	" 3	" 14	.....	" 25	" 20	" 25	" 29	" 4, p.m.
	" 4	" 15	.....	" 26	" 21	" 26	July 1	" 5
	" 5	" 17	.....	" 27	" 22	" 27	" 2	" 6
Philadelphia.....	July 29	Aug. 1	.....	June 10	Aug. 12	Aug. 8	Aug. 5	Aug. 15
	" 30	" 2	.....	" 11	" 13	" 9	" 6	" 16
	" 31	" 3	.....	" 12	" 14	" 10	" 7	" 17
	Sept. 16	" 22	.....	Aug. 29	Oct. 3	Sept. 23	Sept. 26	Sept. 30
	" 17	" 23	.....	" 30	" 4	" 24	" 27	Oct. 1
	" 18	" 24	.....	" 31	" 5	" 25	" 28	" 2
	June 13	April 29	May 8	.....	July 4, a.m.	June 28	June 24	June 19
	" 14	" 30	" 9	.....	July 4, p.m.	" 29	" 25	" 20
	" 15	May 1	" 10	.....	" 5	July 1	" 26	" 21
	" 17	" 2	" 11	.....	" 6	" 2	" 27	" 22
Washington.....	July 22	July 25	June 6	.....	Aug. 15	Aug. 5	Aug. 8	Aug. 12
	" 23	" 26	" 7	.....	" 16	" 6	" 9	" 13
	" 24	" 27	" 8	.....	" 17	" 7	" 10	" 14
	Aug. 22	Aug. 26	Aug. 19	.....	Sept. 30	Sept. 26	Sept. 23	Oct. 3
	" 23	" 27	" 20	.....	Oct. 1	" 27	" 24	" 4
	" 24	" 28	" 21	.....	" 2	" 28	" 25	" 5

Chicago.....	May 2-	May 22	May 13	May 17	.....	May 3	Apr. 24	Apr. 29
	" 29	" 23	" 14	" 18	.....	" 4	" 25	" 30
	May 30 a.m.	" 24	" 15	" 20	.....	" 6	" 26	May 1
	" 30 p.m.	" 25	" 16	" 21	.....	" 7	" 27	" 2
	July 18	July 15	July 11	July 8	.....	June 14	July 29	July 25
	" 19	" 16	" 12	" 9	.....	" 15	" 30	" 26
	" 20	" 17	" 13	" 10	.....	" 17	" 31	" 27
	Sept. 9	Sept. 12	Sept. 2	Sept. 5	.....	Aug. 26	Aug. 29	Aug. 19
Cleveland.....	" 10	" 13	" 3	" 6	.....	" 27	" 30	" 20
	" 11	" 14	" 4	" 7	.....	" 28	" 31	" 21
	May 17	May 13	May 22	May 28	June 1	.....	Apr. 29	Apr. 24
	" 18	" 14	" 23	" 29	" 3	.....	" 30	" 25
	" 20	" 15	" 24	May 30 a.m.	" 4	.....	May 1	" 26
	" 21	" 16	" 25	" 30 p.m.	" 5	.....	" 2	" 27
	July 8	July 11	July 15	July 18	Aug. 1	.....	July 25	June 11
	" 9	" 12	" 16	" 19	" 2	.....	" 26	" 12
Pittsburg.....	" 10	" 13	" 17	" 20	" 3	.....	" 27	" 13
	Sept. 12	Sept. 9	Sept. 5	Sept. 2	Sept. 19	.....	Sept. 16	Aug. 22
	" 13	" 10	" 6	" 3	" 20	.....	" 17	" 23
	" 14	" 11	" 7	" 4	" 21	.....	" 18	" 24
	May 13	May 17	May 28	May 22	May 8	June 6	.....	May 3
	" 14	" 18	" 29	" 23	" 9	" 7	.....	" 4
	" 15	" 20	May 30 a.m.	" 24	" 10	" 8	.....	" 6
	" 16	" 21	" 30 p.m.	" 25	" 11	" 10	.....	" 7
Indianapolis.....	July 1	July 8	July 18	July 15	June 1	July 22	.....	June 14
	" 12	" 9	" 19	" 16	" 12	" 23	.....	" 15
	" 13	" 10	" 20	" 17	" 13	" 24	.....	" 17
	Sept. 5	Sept. 2 a.m.	Sept. 9	Sept. 12	Aug. 22	Aug. 19	.....	Sept. 19
	" 6	" 2 p.m.	" 10	" 13	" 23	" 20	.....	" 20
	" 7	" 3	" 11	" 14	" 24	" 21	.....	" 21
	May 22	May 28	May 17	May 13	June 6	May 8	June 1	.....
	" 23	" 29	" 18	" 14	" 7	" 9	" 3	.....
Indianapolis.....	" 24	May 30 a.m.	" 20	" 15	" 8	" 10	" 4	.....
	" 25	" 30 p.m.	" 21	" 16	" 10	" 11	" 5	.....
	July 15	July 18	July 8	July 11	July 22	July 29	Aug. 1	.....
	" 16	" 19	" 9	" 12	" 23	" 30	" 2	.....
	" 17	" 20	" 10	" 13	" 24	" 31	" 3	.....
	Sept. 2 a.m.	Sept. 5	Sept. 12	Sept. 9	Sept. 16	Aug. 29	" 26	.....
	" 2 p.m.	" 6	" 13	" 10	" 17	" 30	" 27	.....
	Sept. 3	" 7	" 14	" 11	" 18	" 31	" 28	.....

# AMERICAN ASSOCIATION SCHEDULE OF CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES FOR 1889.

CLUBS.	In Brooklyn.	In Philadelp <sup>a</sup>	In Baltimore.	In Columbus.	In Cincinnati.	In Louisville.	In St. Louis.	In Kansas C <sup>y</sup> .
Brooklyn.....	.....	April 17	April 22	May 25†	May 11†	May 7	May 16	May 20
	.....	" 18	" 23	" 26†	" 12†	" 8	" 17	" 21
	.....	" 20†	" 24	" 27	" 13	" 9	" 18	" 22
	.....	" 21†	Aug. 27	" 28	" 14	" 10	" 19†	" 23
	.....	June 29†	" 28	Aug. 6	July 13†	July 10	July 3	July 6†
	.....	" 30†	" 29	" 7	" 14†	" 11	" 4	" 7†
	.....	July 1	Oct. 8	" 8	" 15	" 12	" 4	" 8
	.....	Sept. 17	" 9	Oct. 12†	Aug. 22	Aug. 17†	Aug. 10†	Aug. 13
	.....	" 18	" 10	" 13†	" 24†	" 18†	" 11†	" 14
	.....	" 19	" 11	" 14	" 25†	" 20	" 12	" 15
Athletics.....	May 2	.....	April 25	April 28†	May 7	May 11†	May 20	May 16
	" 3	.....	" 26	" 29	" 8	" 12†	" 21	" 17
	" 4†	.....	" 27†	" 30	" 9	" 13	" 22	" 18†
	" 5†	.....	May 25†	Aug. 27	" 10	" 14	" 23	" 19†
	July 18	.....	" 27	" 28	July 6†	July 3	July 10	July 13†
	" 20†	.....	" 28	" 29	" 7†	" 4	" 11	" 14†
	" 2 †	.....	" 29	Oct. 8	" 8	" 4	" 12	" 15
	Oct. 3	.....	Sept 21†	" 9	Aug. 13	Aug. 10†	Aug. 17†	Aug. 22
	" 5†	.....	" 23	" 10	" 14	" 11†	" 18†	" 24†
	" 6†	.....	" 24	" 11	" 15	" 12	" 20	" 25†
Baltimore.....	April 28†	June 23†	.....	May 2	May 16	May 20	May 11†	May 7
	" 29	" 24	.....	" 3	" 17	" 21	" 12†	" 8
	" 30	" 25	.....	" 4†	" 18†	" 22	" 13	" 9
	May 1	" 26	.....	" 5†	" 19†	" 23	" 14	" 10
	June 19	Aug. 6	.....	July 18	July 3	July 6†	July 13†	July 10
	" 20	" 7	.....	" 20†	" 4	" 7†	" 14†	" 11
	" 22†	" 8	.....	" 21†	" 4	" 8	" 15	" 12
	Sept. 27	Oct. 12†	.....	Sept. 17	Aug. 10†	Aug. 13	Aug. 22	Aug. 17†
	" 24†	" 13†	.....	" 18	" 11†	" 14	" 24†	" 18†
	" 29†	" 14	.....	" 19	" 12	" 15	" 25†	" 20
Columbus.....	April 25	April 22	April 17	.....	May 20	May 16	May 7	May 11†
	" 26	" 23	" 18	.....	" 21	" 17	" 8	" 12†
	" 27†	" 24	" 19	.....	" 22	" 18†	" 9	" 13
	June 23†	June 19	" 20†	.....	" 23	" 19†	" 10	" 14
	" 24	" 20	June 27	.....	July 10	July 13†	July 6†	July 3
	" 25	" 21	" 28	.....	" 11	" 14†	" 7†	" 4
	" 26	" 22†	" 29†	.....	" 12	" 15	" 8	" 4
	Sept. 21†	Sept. 28†	Oct. 3	.....	Aug. 17†	Aug. 22	Aug. 13	Aug. 10†
	" 22†	" 29†	" 4	.....	" 18†	" 24†	" 14	" 11†
	" 24	" 30	" 5†	.....	" 20	" 25†	" 15	" 12

† Saturday,    † Sunday.

Cincinnati.....	June 13	May 30	June 3	June 8†	.....	May 25†	Apr. 25	April 29
	" 14	" 30	" 4	" 9†	.....	" 26†	" 26	" 30
	" 15†	June 1†	" 5	" 10	.....	" 27	" 27†	May 1
	" 16†	" 2†	" 6	" 11	.....	" 28	" 28†	" 2
	July 26	July 23	Aug. 2	July 29	.....	Aug. 7	June 25	June 29†
	" 27†	" 24	" 3†	" 30	.....	" 8	" 26	" 30†
	" 28†	" 25	" 5	" 31	.....	" 9	" 27	July 1
Louisville.....	Sept. 2	Aug. 30	Sept. 7†	Sept. 12	.....	Sept. 17	Sept. 21†	Sept. 26
	" 2	" 31†	" 9	" 14†	.....	" 18	" 22†	" 28†
	" 4	Sept. 1†	" 10	" 15†	.....	" 19	" 23	" 29†
	June 8†	June 3	June 13	May 30	May 4†	.....	Apr. 29	April 25
	" 9†	" 4	" 14	" 30	" 5†	.....	" 30	" 26
	" 10	" 5	" 15†	June 1†	" 6	.....	May 1	" 27†
	" 11	" 6	" 17	" 2†	Aug. 26	.....	" 2	" 2†
St. Louis.....	July 30	Aug. 2	July 23	July 26	" 27	.....	June 29†	June 26
	" 31	" 3†	" 24	" 27†	" 28	.....	" 30†	" 27
	Aug. 1	" 4†	" 25	" 26†	Oct. 3	.....	July 1	" 28
	Sept. 12	Sept. 7†	Aug. 30	Sept. 3	" 4	.....	Sept. 26	Sept. 21†
	" 14†	" 8†	" 31†	" 4	" 5†	.....	" 28†	" 22†
	" 15†	" 9	Sept. 2	" 5	" 6†	.....	" 29†	" 23
	May 30	June 13	June 8†	June 3	April 17	Apr. 21†	.....	May 3
Kansas City.....	" 30	" 15†	" 10	" 4	" 18	" 22	.....	" 4†
	June 1†	" 16†	" 11	" 5	" 19	" 23	.....	" 5†
	" 2†	" 17	" 12	" 6	" 20†	June 20	.....	" 6
	Aug. 2	July 30	July 26	July 22	July 18	" 22†	.....	Aug. 7
	" 3†	" 31	" 27†	" 23	" 20†	" 23†	.....	" 8
	" 4†	Aug. 1	" 29	" 24	" 21†	" 24	.....	" 9
	Sept. 7†	Sept. 12	Sept. 3	Aug. 30	Oct. 12†	Oct. 8	.....	Sept. 18
Kansas City.....	" 8†	" 14†	" 4	" 31†	" 13†	" 9	.....	" 19
	" 10	" 15†	" 5	Sept. 1†	" 14	" 10	.....	" 20
	June 3	June 8†	May 30	June 13	April 21†	Apr. 17	May 24	.....
	" 4	" 9†	" 30	" 14	" 22	" 18	" 25†	.....
	" 5	" 10	" 31	" 15†	" 23	" 19	" 26†	.....
	" 6	" 11	June 1†	" 16†	June 20	" 20†	" 27	.....
	July 23	July 27†	July 30	Aug. 2	" 21	July 18	Aug. 26	.....
Kansas City.....	" 24	" 28†	" 31	" 3†	" 22†	" 20†	" 27	.....
	" 25	" 29	Aug. 1	" 4†	" 23†	" 21†	" 28	.....
	Aug. 30	Sept. 2	Sept. 12	Sept. 7†	Oct. 8	Oct. 12†	Oct. 3	.....
	" 31†	" 3	" 13	" 8†	" 9	" 13†	" 5†	.....
	Sept. 1†	" 4	" 14†	" 9	" 10	" 14	" 6†	.....

† Saturday.    † Sunday.